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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

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United States Department of Transportation Dockets
Docket No. FAA-2002-13378
400 Seventh Street South West
Room Plaza 401
Washington, DC 20590

November 16, 2002

RE: Docket No. FAA-2002-13378 - *3772*

Dear U.S. Department of Transportation,

Docket No. FAA-2002-13378 needs to have a few changes made to some of its sections. The first concern is that the privacy rights of both the shipper and receiver of the animals will be violated. Second, if the names and addresses of private citizens and companies are made public, they may be placed on mailing lists or targeted by different groups.

The second section is the use of the term "guardian" in describing the owner of an animal. Animals are bought, sold, and are clearly considered as property under the law. The term "guardian" should be removed.

The third section is the ruling's mandate that the airline must determine the potential future use of the animal. If the animal has been purchased by an individual consumer, then the designation as a "pet" may be made by the consumer. However, if the animal is being shipped to a commercial distributor or retailer, the final designation of the animal's use is unknown. Will the rat or mouse being shipped become a family "pet" or be used to feed a reptile, such as a snake? Will the German Shepard pup being commercially shipped to a retailer, be sold the next week to a private family or to a Police Department for use as a police or drug dog? Because of this, commercial sales and commercial shipping of animals should be exempt from the FAA ruling.

Sincerely,

Cathy Pritchett